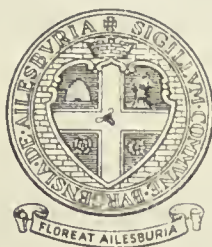




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Borough of Aylesbury

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

ANNUAL REPORT

ON THE HEALTH OF THE BOROUGH

FOR THE YEAR 1958

J. T. C. SIMS-ROBERTS,


M.B., CH.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Barrister at Law,

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

W. EWART RUSE, A.R.S.H., F.A.P.H.I.

BOROUGH PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR



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HEALTH COMMITTEE

(Constituted May, 1958)

Councillor R. D. Hall (Chairman)
Councillor T. Hutchison (Vice-Chairman)
Councillor Mrs. Z. A. P. Williams (The Mayor)
Councillor F. B. Howard (Deputy Mayor)
Alderman C. G. Cousins, J.P.
Councillor J. T. Blyth
Councillor D. T. Bates
Councillor L. H. Goss
Councillor L. E. Purdom
Councillor H. D. Smith
Councillor N. Thompson

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

John T. C. Sims-Roberts,

M.B., CH.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H

Barrister at Law.

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

W. Ewart Ruse, A.R.S.H., F.A.P.H.I.

ADDITIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS

Douglas Andrew, C.R.S.H.

Dennis W. Rixon, C.R.S.H.

CLERICAL STAFF

Miss V. Slingsbury

Miss N. Harrison (3/2/58—31/12/58)

Borough of Aylesbury

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
"FRIAR'S CROFT,"
OXFORD ROAD,
AYLESBURY.

July, 1959.

MR. MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report on the health and vital statistics of the Borough of Aylesbury for the year 1958, together with the report of the Chief Public Health Inspector.

The total number of infectious diseases notified throughout the year was much less than the previous year. In common with many parts of the country, there was no case of diphtheria notified, but until the disease has been truly eradicated we must not relax protective inoculation against it.

There was a diminution in the notification of diseases of the enteric type, and the majority of the dysenteries were of the mild variety. The one case of typhoid fever resided outside the Borough, but was treated at the Isolation Hospital. In the three cases of food poisoning notified, a common organism was detected in two of the cases. The cases were mild, recovery was rapid and the vehicle of infection was not discovered.

One case of poliomyelitis was notified during the year, a child of three who completely recovered, and no case of meningitis was notified.

The overall picture of the statistics shows that the general standard of health in the Aylesbury community compares admirably with the rest of the country.

I have much pleasure in recording my thanks to the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors for their assistance during the year, and to the staff of the Health Department for their excellent team work in preserving healthy conditions in the Borough, and help in preparing this report.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

J. T. C. SIMS-ROBERTS,
M.B., CH.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.
Medical Officer of Health.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area	...	...	...	...	...	3,588 acres
Population (estimated mid 1958)	...	...	...	...	...	22,960
Number of inhabited houses (at end of 1958 according to Rate Books)	...	...	...	...	...	7,009
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	...	£381,602
Sum represented by a penny rate	...	...	...	...	...	£1,521

UNEMPLOYMENT

At 31st December, 1957

58 women
91 men
7 girls
11 boys

167

At 31st December, 1958

61 women
100 men
8 girls
14 boys

183

VITAL STATISTICS

BIRTHS

Live Births:—

	1957			1958		
	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total
Legitimate	176	183	359	183	195	378
Illegitimate	19	16	35	9	10	19
Rate per 1,000 estimated population	...	...	...	...	1957	1958
	...	...	...	...	17.62	17.32
Rate (corrected)	...	...	...	...	15.32	15.07
Rate for England and Wales	...	...	...	...	16.1	16.4

Still Births:—

	1957			1958		
	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total
Legitimate	3	5	8	3	1	4
Illegitimate	—	2	2	—	—	—
Rate per 1,000 estimated population (live and still births)	...	...	...	...	1957	1958
	...	...	...	...	18.07	17.50

DEATHS

	1957			1958		
	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total
Deaths	131	106	237	120	119	239
Rate per 1,000 estimated population	1957	1958
	10.6	10.43
Standardised Rate	10.92	10.74
Rate for England and Wales	11.5	11.7

Death of infants under one year of age:—

	1957			1958		
	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total
Legitimate ...	6	4	10	3	2	5
Illegitimate ...	1	—	1	—	—	—

Rate of Infants under one year of age:—

	1957	1958
All infants per 1,000 live births ...	27.92	12.59
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births ...	27.85	13.23
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births ...	28.57	—

Deaths of infants under 4 weeks of age:—

	1957			1958		
	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total
Legitimate ...	5	2	7	3	2	5
Illegitimate ...	1	—	1	—	—	—

	1957	1958
Neo-Natal Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	20.30	12.59

ANALYSIS OF DEATHS

	M.	F.
Tuberculosis, non-respiratory ...	1	—
Malignant neoplasm, stomach ...	7	3
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus ...	10	1
Malignant neoplasm, breast ...	—	7
Malignant neoplasm, uterus ...	—	2
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms ...	14	19
Diabetes ...	—	1
Vascular lesions of nervous system ...	9	14
Coronary disease, angina ...	16	22
Hypertension with heart disease ...	2	2
Other heart disease ...	11	16
Other circulatory disease ...	3	4
Influenza ...	1	—
Pneumonia ...	11	12
Bronchitis ...	9	—
Other disease of respiratory system ...	3	—
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ...	3	—
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea ...	1	1
Nephritis and nephrosis ...	1	1
Congenital Malformations ...	1	3
Other defined and ill-defined diseases ...	11	9
Motor vehicle accidents ...	2	—
All other accidents ...	4	2
	<hr/> 120	<hr/> 119

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES

Hospitals

During the year the Royal Bucks, Tindal General and Stoke Mandeville Hospitals have provided accommodation for surgical and medical cases whilst the Isolation Hospital continued to admit persons suffering from infectious diseases.

Stoke Mandeville Hospital also provided accommodation for paraplegic cases.

The above hospitals situated in the Borough are administered by the Royal Buckinghamshire and Associated Hospitals Management Committee who are responsible to the Oxford Regional Hospital Board.

Pathology Laboratory, Stoke Mandeville Hospital

Routine samples of milk, water and ice cream and other specimens requiring pathological examination are submitted to the above. When necessary the services of the Public Health Laboratories at Luton and Oxford are utilised.

Ambulance Services

Eight ambulances, and four sitting case cars are stationed in Buckingham Road for use in the town and surrounding districts.

Maternity and Child Welfare

Infant Welfare Clinics are still held at Pebble Lane, Quarrendon Estate and Southcourt and controlled by the Bucks County Council.

Polionmyelitis Vaccination

The Bucks County Council control the vaccination of children against this disease.

Diphtheria and Whooping Cough Immunisation

As the Local Health Authority, defined in the National Health Service Act, 1946, the Bucks County Council control the immunisation of children against these diseases.

Treatment of Venereal Disease

The Royal Buckinghamshire and Associated Hospitals Management Committee administer a clinic held regularly at the Royal Bucks Hospital for the treatment of the above disease.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE

	Total notifications received			Cases admitted to Isolation Hospital	
	1957	1958		1957	1958
		Male.	Female.		
Measles	222	7	10	—	—
Whooping Cough	25	14	14	—	—
Dysentery	41	10	5	2	2
Pneumonia	1	—	—	1	—
Scarlet Fever	13	14	15	1	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	28	—	18	27	17
Poliomyelitis	2	—	1	2	1
Erysipelas	—	—	3	—	1
Food Poisoning	—	2	1	—	2
Paratyphoid B	1	—	—	1	—
Meningococcal Meningitis	2	—	—	2	—
Typhoid Fever	—	1	—	—	1

Incidence of Notifiable Diseases during the year with Analysis under Age Groups

	Under 1 year.	1 — 2 yrs.	3 — 4 yrs.	5 — 9 yrs.	10 — 14 yrs.	15 — 24 yrs.	25 — 44 yrs.	45 — 65 yrs.	Over 65 yrs.	Age unknown.	Totals.
Measles	2	3	3	7	2	—	—	—	—	—	17
Whooping Cough	3	6	3	14	2	—	—	—	—	—	28
Dysentery	—	—	1	6	4	3	1	—	—	—	15
Scarlet Fever	—	1	5	13	8	1	1	—	—	—	29
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	11	7	—	—	—	18
Poliomyelitis	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	3
Food Poisoning	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	3
Typhoid Fever	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1

TUBERCULOSIS

New Cases				
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M	F	M	F
<i>Age Groups</i>				
0—	—	—	—	—
1—	—	—	—	—
5—	1	—(1)	—	—
15—	—(1)	—	—	—
25—	—(1)	2(4)	—(1)	1
35—	—(3)	—(2)	—	—
45—	2(2)	1	1	1
55—	3	—	—	—
65— and upwards	1	1	—	1(1)
Age unknown ..	—	—	—	—
Total	7(7)	4(7)	1(1)	3(1)

The figures in brackets denote the number of cases notified originally in other districts and who have moved into the Borough during the year.

The Isolation Hospital in Mandeville Road has a block containing 15 beds for the treatment of persons suffering from Tuberculosis.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES IN THE AREA

Water Supply

The water supply of the Borough is obtained through the Bucks Water Board from wells situated at Dancers End, New Ground and Hawridge, which are on the Chiltern Hills.

Sampling has been carried out during the year by the Water Authority at their wells and also in the town. All samples were satisfactory.

Thirteen samples were taken and submitted for bacteriological examination by this Department from domestic sources in the Borough. Reports proved that the water was satisfactory in all cases.

All houses in the Borough are connected to the main supply and the quantity of water supplied to the town is adequate.

Drainage and Sewerage

The drainage and sewerage of the Borough is partially on the separate system with surface water from streets and buildings being discharged to water courses (all post-war development is on this

system) and partially on the combined system where all surface water discharged into the sewers is treated at the Sewage Disposal Works.

Schemes have been prepared for the separate surface water drainage of several areas now drained on the combined system and it is hoped to carry out the scheme for the conversion of the central area of the town during 1959-60.

Public Cleansing

Refuse disposal is carried out completely by controlled tipping, which is giving very satisfactory results. Salvage collection is made before and after tipping of the refuse.

The collection of refuse is done by modern dustless loading types of vehicles and both this service and that of street cleansing continues to be operated in an efficient manner. The maintenance of sufficient labour for this work is still difficult, particularly for the cleansing of streets.

Open-Air Swimming Pool, Park Street

The water in the pool circulates continuously throughout the period of use, being filtered and chlorinated before re-introduction to the swimming pool.

Eight samples of water were taken during the summer months, several of which fell below the required standard of chlorination. As reported last year, arrangements have been made for the installation of a modern chlorination plant, and it is understood that this will be installed as soon as the baths close for the winter.

Slipper Baths

The Slipper Baths in Bourbon Street were closed during the year, and new Slipper Baths opened in Park Street on 16th October, 1958.

Eradication of Bed Bugs

The number of rooms requiring disinfection was four.

Schools

The water supply and sanitary accommodation to all schools in the Borough are adequate.

Local Rainfall

January	2.61 ins.	July	2.58 ins.
February	2.48 ins.	August	3.54 ins.
March	1.34 ins.	September	3.80 ins.
April	0.75 ins.	October	3.12 ins.
May	1.68 ins.	November	2.33 ins.
June	3.14 ins.	December	2.53 ins.
Total rainfall for the year		... ..	29.90 ins.
Average for the past 53 years		... ..	24.838 ins.

(Figures supplied by Mr. J. D. Dugdale, Borough Engineer and Surveyor).

Mr. Dugdale stated that rain fell on 175 days during the year, compared with 151 days in 1957.

The monthly recordings all show an increase over last year's figures with the exception of those for February.

As last year, April was again the driest month and September the wettest, the figures for September being the second highest for that month for the last 20 years.

The total for the year has only been exceeded once in the last 20 years—that was in 1951.

The highest daily recordings occurred on 1st November — 0.82 ins. and the 2nd November—0.81 ins.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

(a) Milk Supply

Messrs. Nesmilk Ltd., are licensed by the Bucks County Council to pasteurise milk in the Borough. Pasteurisation is carried out on a large scale and their premises are equipped with H.T.S.T. type plant.

The Bucks County Council carry out sampling of this milk at the plant to ensure that it is being efficiently heat treated

Thirty-seven samples of milk were taken in course of delivery to the consumer during the year, with the following results:—

Grade.	Samples Taken	Complied with Regulations	Test In-conclusive
Tuberculin Tested	7	6	—
Tuberculin Tested Pasteurised	13	13	—
Pasteurised	17	17	—

There was one unsatisfactory "Tuberculin Tested" sample taken during the year, but the follow-up sample proved to be satisfactory.

(b) Meat and Other Foods

Carcases Inspected and Condemned

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed and inspected	3,574	370	658	10,578	4,622
All Diseases except Tuberculosis					
Whole carcasses condemned ..	1	3	4	10	4
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ..	783	16	2	243	453
Percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than T.B. .. .	21.94%	5.14%	0.91%	2.39%	9.89%

Tuberculosis only					
Whole carcasses condemned ..	2	4	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ..	126	30	1	—	34
Percentage of number inspected affected with T.B. ..	3.58%	9.19%	0.15%	—	0.74%
Cysticercus Bovis					
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ..	2	—	—	—	—
Carcases submitted for treatment by refrigeration ..	2	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned	—	—	—	—	—

Fourteen licences were issued to slaughtermen during the year.

FACTORIES AND WORKPLACES

Informal action has been taken where necessary under the provisions of the Factories Act, 1937, and the Public Health Act, 1936, to remedy contraventions of the requirements of these Acts in mechanical and non-mechanical factories and workplaces.

ADMINISTRATION OF THE FACTORIES ACT, 1937

1. Inspections for the purposes of provision as to health.

Premises	Inspections	Number of Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
Factories without mechanical power	41	3	—
Factories with mechanical power			

2. Defects found.

	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	by H.M. Inspector
Ineffective drainage of floors (Sec. 6).	1	1	1	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork)	5	5	—	5
Total	6	6	1	5

Outwork in unwholesome premises

There are four outworkers' premises in the town, all of which are in a satisfactory condition.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE BOROUGH PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
"FRIAR'S CROFT,"
OXFORD ROAD,
AYLESBURY.

MR. MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS.

I have the honour to present the Annual Report on the work of the Public Health Department during the year 1958.

Housing

Action in connection with the Cambridge Street Clearance Area was again held up because of the re-housing situation, but despite this, much good work under the Housing Act was accomplished during the year.

Sixteen of the houses included in Clearance Areas already confirmed by the Minister were demolished during the year, and six individual unfit houses were dealt with and closed until either demolished or rendered fit by the owners.

Work under the Rent Act, 1957, did not continue at anything like the same rate as during the previous year, only five applications for certificates of disrepair being received. This entailed seventeen visits of inspection and the issue of three certificates.

The general work carried out under the Housing Act is detailed in the following table.

No. of houses inspected	38
Visits paid to above houses	100
Informal Notices served	22
Statutory Notices served	7
Houses repaired:	
By owners	10
By the Borough Council in default ...	—

In addition to the above work four visits were made in connection with overcrowding of houses, two cases of which were reported during the year and referred to the Housing Department for action.

Disinfestation

Infestation of bed bugs was not reported from any house in the Borough during 1958, but two visits were paid to the Hostel in Bicester Road for the purpose of disinfestation.

Whilst bed bug infestation was practically non-existent, for the first time for many years three complaints of flea infestation were received. These pests are somewhat more difficult to eradicate than

bed bugs, but in the three instances mentioned, satisfactory control was obtained.

Having regard to the rarity of complaints concerning these pests I am inclined to think that they were probably due to animal pests rather than to the species which normally attack human beings.

Public Health Act

The following table shows the work carried out under the above Act during the year.

The majority of the Statutory Notices under this Act deal with repairs to sewers under Section 24 of the Act, which are carried out by the Council, the costs being recovered from the owners of the properties concerned.

No. of houses inspected ...	...	...	34
Visits paid to above houses	...	...	43
Drainage visits	...	...	516
Nuisances found	...	...	56
Nuisances abated	...	...	56
Informal notices served	...	...	—
Statutory notices served	...	...	13

All the notices were complied with.

It will be noticed that fifty-six nuisances were found and abated during the year without the necessity of taking statutory action for their abatement. The majority of this work was done by informal action, and the reason why no indication of informal notices served is given, is that it is almost always done by personal interview with the persons concerned. This, I think, speaks well for the co-operation generally found between the Health Department and the public.

Food

Slaughterhouses

Meat inspection at the slaughterhouses continues to be one of the most important aspects of the department's work, and once again 100% inspection was maintained.

The percentage of animals affected with tuberculosis again shows a slight decrease, but two animals were found to be affected with cysticercus bovis as against one in the previous year. 825 visits to slaughterhouses were made during 1958, and some 207 hours of overtime worked.

The following tables show the number of animals slaughtered and the results of the inspections:—

Number of animals slaughtered and inspected during 1958 :—

Quarter	Cows	Other Cattle	Calves	Sheep	Pigs	Total
1st	77	829	188	2,361	1,250	4,705
2nd	122	1,042	168	2,551	1,054	4,937
3rd	90	859	150	2,909	891	4,899
4th	81	844	152	2,757	1,427	5,261
Totals	370	3,574	658	10,578	4,622	19,802

Tables showing Condemned Organs of Animals

CATTLE

	Head	Tongue	Liver	Lungs	Heart	Udder	Pluck	Spleen	Kidneys	Skirt
Distoma										
Hepaticum			606							
Abscessed	1	1	102	7						
Pneumonia				4			1			
Inflammation			8	29	5			9		2
Tuberculosis	66	66	15	113	1			2	2	1
Fatty Change			4							
Pleurisy			2	12						
Congestion				6						
Nephritis									3	
Parasitic			4							
Cystic			5	16				1	1	
Actinobacillosis	7	7								
Tumoured			11	1						
Cavernous										
Angioma			8							
Cysticercus Bovis	3	1			1					
Mannitis						1				

Carcases Condemned (including all offal)

Generalised T.B. and Emaciation ...	1
Generalised T.B.	5
Dropsical and Emaciation	1
Septic and Fevered	1
Dropsical	1
Bruising and Haemorrhage ...	1
Total ...	10

In addition to the above, two carcasses were found to be affected with *Cysticercus Bovis* and transferred to cold storage before being released for human consumption.

SHEEP

	Head	Tongue	Liver	Lungs	Heart	Pluck
Parasitic			97			
Inflammation			2			
Distoma Hepaticum ..			140			2
Abscessed			1			
Pneumonia	1			2	1	3

Carcase Condemned (including all offal)

Inperfect Bleeding	1
Pigmentation	1
Septic Pneumonia	1
Septic and Fevered	1
Imperfect Setting and Moribund ...	1
Septicaemia	1
Moribund	1
Dropsy and Emaciation	3
Total	10

PIGS

	Head	Tongue	Liver	Lungs	Heart	Pluck	Kidneys	Udder
Pneumonia				280	22	13		
Inflammation			7	22	55	3		
Parasitic			62	2		1		
Pericarditis					10			
Tuberculosis	31					3		
Abscessed	1						2	
Pleurisy				9	1	2		
Fatty Change			2	1				
Cirrhosis			9					
Mastitis								1
Cysts							5	
Congestion			3					
Nephritis							2	

Carcases Condemned (including all offal)

Imperfect Bleeding	1
Septic Peritonitis	1
Peritonitis	1
Pleurisy and Peritonitis	1
Total	4

CALVES

	Pluck	Lungs
Abscessed	1	
Tuberculosis		1
Pneumonia		1

Carcases Condemned (including all offal)

Moribund	1
Septic and Fevered	1
Fevered and Pneumonia	1
Dropsy and Bruising	1
Total ...	4

Weight of Condemned Meat and Offal

	lbs.
Cow Beef	3,449
Cow Offal	948
Other Beef	1,843
Other Bovine Offal	9,936
Pork	811
Pig Offal	894
Mutton	465
Sheep Offal	560
Veal	299
Calf Offal	38
Total ...	19,243

Total: 8 tons 11 cwts. 3 qtrs .7 lbs.

Fourteen slaughtermen's licences were issued during the year.

As a result of inspections, often on request from the shop-keeper, the following foodstuffs were surrendered and disposed of from wholesale and retail premises in the Borough:—

	Weight		Number
	Lbs.	Ozs.	
Fish	250	8	—
Cheese	363	8	—
Fresh Meat	594	12	—
Tinned Vegetables ..	169	1	155
„ Fruit	1980	4	1551
„ Meat	321	7	130
„ Fish	43	—	55
„ Milk	212	2	103
Preserves	52	14	34
Miscellaneous	792	10	276
Total ..	4,780	2	2,304

Total Foodstuffs condemned during the year:—

Meat and Offal	8 tons	11 cwt.	3 qts.	7 lbs.	— ozs.
Various Foodstuffs ..	2 tons	2 cwt.	2 qts.	20 lbs.	2 ozs.
Total	10 tons	14 cwt.	1 qtr.	27 lbs.	2 ozs.

Disposal of condemned food is left to the retailer.

Milk and Dairies

The retail milk distribution trade is now confined almost entirely to the distribution of milk in bottles and containers as received from the wholesalers. This has resulted in the dairies becoming only depots at which the milk is received and stored pending distribution, with a consequent reduction in the necessity for inspections to ensure that the premises are properly maintained.

One result of this change-over has been that occasional complaints are received of noise in the early morning occasioned by the wholesale delivery of crates of milk bottles, and six visits were made during the year either as routine checks of premises, or in an effort to obtain a reduction in the noise level in the early morning.

Milk producers are licensed and controlled by the County Agricultural Committee, acting as agents for the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, whilst a firm pasteurising milk is licensed by the County Council as the Food and Drugs Authority.

The sampling of milk in course of delivery was maintained to ensure that the milk conformed to the required standards and that the housewife was getting the grade of milk for which she paid and milk which would keep for as long as she required to use it. The results of these samples are contained in the Report of the Medical Officer of Health.

No action against milk retailers for contravention of the Regulation was necessary during the year.

Licences under the Milk (Special Designation) Regulations, 1949 to 1953, were issued as follows:—

“Tuberculin Tested,” “Pasteurised” and “Sterilised” Licences:—

T. Elliott, 41, Oxford Road, Stone.

Nestle Co. Ltd., High Street, Aylesbury.

Hornby & Clarke Ltd., Princes Street, Richmond
in respect of 16, St. John's Street and
37, Buckingham Street, Aylesbury.

A. T. Piggot, 139 Wendover Road, Aylesbury.

The Aylesbury Co-operative Society Ltd., 79/85 High Street,
Aylesbury.

“Tuberculin Tested” and “Pasteurised” licences:—

J. H. Jones, Red House Farm, Stoke Mandeville.
T. C. White, The Prince of Wales Public House, Broughton.
R. Wallace, 30, Great Lane, Bierton.
W. C. Trench and E. H. Rhodes, Rookery Farm Dairy, Aston Clinton.
A. Willis, 3, Tindal Road, Aylesbury.
G. W. Warner, 56, Victoria Street, Aylesbury.
S. Hall, 12, Cambridge Place, Aylesbury.
W. Hodgkins, 87, Wendover Road, Aylesbury.
W. Cartwright & Sons, 61, Buckingham Street, Aylesbury.
W. H. Willis, 6, Manor Drive, Aylesbury.
L. J. Evett & Co., 99, Park Street, Aylesbury.
F. J. Child, 156, Cambridge Street, Aylesbury.
A. Tilbrook, 125, Oxford Road, Aylesbury.

“Pasteurised” licence:—

F. J. Davis, Old House Dairy, Bierton.

“Tuberculin Tested” licence:—

Nesmilk Ltd., High Street, Aylesbury.

Ice Cream

Ninety-seven premises are registered for the sale of ice-cream. In the majority of cases pre-packed ice cream made by one or other of the large wholesale firms is sold. Only one person manufactured ice cream in the Borough, and in this case a cold mix ice cream using previously heat treated ingredients was produced.

Twenty-one samples of ice cream were submitted for analysis during the year, and with the exception of two samples proved satisfactory. The two unsatisfactory samples, one in Grade 4 and one in Grade 3, were immediately followed up and after enquiry further samples proved satisfactory. Forty-four visits were paid to registered premises.

Food Shops, Restaurants, etc.

The visits made to food shops, restaurants and food preparing premises for the purpose of examining foodstuffs and observing the compliance with or breach of the requirements of Food and Drugs Act, Regulations and Byelaws, are set out in the following table. The general standard of cleanliness and hygiene is good and no statutory action was necessary during the year. Continual vigilance is needed in this field to ensure that the standards are maintained, and that the facilities provided by the owners are properly used by the employees.

Market Stalls	...	...	...	763
Grocers	...	...	...	111
Butchers	...	...	...	38
Restaurants	...	...	...	28
Fishmongers	...	...	...	5
Food Preparing Premises	...	...	...	2

Water Supply

Every house in the Borough is supplied with piped water obtained from the Chiltern Hills by the Bucks Water Board.

The standard of bacterial purity of the water remained satisfactory. Thirteen samples taken during the year satisfied the standards laid down by the Ministry of Health.

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act

The work carried out under the above Act shows little change from that carried out in previous years, and as stated previously, it is evident that continued effort is needed in this field to prevent a rapid rise in the rodent population of the Borough. Again no major infestation was discovered, but the number of minor localised infestations continues at approximately the same rate from year to year.

The sewers were treated in May and October, when thirteen manholes were found to be infested and treated. Extended baiting, using warfarin with a mould inhibitor, was again used and gave excellent results.

Warfarin was also used for all normal surface treatments, in fact, this preparation, which has been found to be so effective against rats, is to all intents and purposes the only poison used in the department.

Twenty-eight annual agreements with various firms in the Borough for a total sum of £270 are in operation, and it would appear from the continued use of this service by local industrialists that they are fully satisfied with the service given. The cost of all the work done on business premises was recovered and amounted to £34 11s. 6d., whilst private properties were treated free, half the cost being met by an Exchequer Grant.

This is the last year in which a direct government grant for rodent services will be received, and all monies not recovered from business premises will in future have to be borne by the rates if, as I hope, the Council decide to continue their policy of giving a free service to householders.

The Borough are constituent members of the North Bucks Workable Area Rodent Control Committee which meets twice yearly to discuss matters of mutual interest and receive reports from the Ministry Officers of new methods and improved techniques of rodent control. I again had the honour to be Chairman of this Committee for the last year.

Two wasps nests were destroyed during the year.

Private Premises treated	229
Business Premises treated	185
Local Authority Premises treated	14
Rat bodies found	407
Mouse bodies found	174
Points laid—Private Premises	663
Points laid—Business Premises	740
Points laid—Local Authority Premises	102
Manholes treated	59
Visits made by Public Health Inspectors	58

Factories Acts, 1937 and 1948

Mechanical factories on register requiring visiting	94
Non-mechanical factories on register requiring visiting	24
Visits paid to factories	41

Shops Act, 1950

All shops in the Borough continue to close at hours earlier than those allowed in the Act, and no action was necessary against any shopkeeper for non-compliance with the Shops Act.

Petroleum

Licences issued for storage of Petroleum Spirit and Mixtures	63
Licences issued for storage of Carbide of Calcium	1
Inspections of Petrol and Carbide Stores	34

Quantity licensed to be stored:

Petroleum Spirit	151,274 galls.
Petroleum Mixtures	1,455 galls.
Carbide of Calcium	300 lbs.
Total of Licence Fees	£53 15s. 0d.

Public Conveniences

The general standard of cleanliness and efficiency in the Public Conveniences has been maintained throughout the year.

The conveniences in the High Street, Old Stoke Road and at the Cattle Market continue to be kept open all night. 305 inspections of conveniences were made during the year.

Miscellaneous

Other work of the Department not covered by any of the previous headings include the following:—

Miscellaneous Public Health Visits	...	569
Interviews	... ..	538
Complaints received and investigated	...	134
Infected house visits	... ..	45
Smoke observations	... ..	27
Marine Stores visits	... ..	6

General

One piece of new legislation affecting the department was enacted during the year, the Slaughterhouses Act, 1958. This Act made certain alterations in the licensing procedure for slaughterhouses and provided for a report on slaughterhouse facilities to be made to the Minister not earlier than a day to be appointed by him following the issue of constructional regulations under the Act, and within a period of eighteen months after the first appointed day.

Employment in knacker's yards was brought within the purview of the Factories Act as regards safety provisions, and provision was made for the issue of temporary slaughtermen's licences so that the aptitude of the applicant could be assessed before a full licence was granted.

The Act also made provision for continuing the grants for meat inspection at slaughterhouses entailed by the necessity to inspect meat which was later exported to other districts.

Mr. E. Miller, Junior Clerk in the department obtained a position with the Marylebone Metropolitan Borough Council as a Public Health Inspector and left in January: his place was taken by Miss N. Harrison who has settled into the routine of the office and is proving quite useful. No further changes in staff occurred, and the work of the department continued satisfactorily throughout the year.

In conclusion I would once again like to express my thanks to the Members of the Council and Committee for their continued help and confidence, to members of my staff for their co-operation and support, and to my fellow officers for advice and assistance.

I am,

Mr. Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors,

Your obedient Servant,

W. EWART RUSE, F.A.P.H.I., A.R.S.H.

Borough Public Health Inspector

